The Member finally requested that the territorial jurisdiction of the Panchayat court at Attungal might be extended to the pakuthies of Attungal, Kizh-Attungal, Alamcode, Avananchery, Edakode, Kuntalur and Kizhavallam. He also requested that the pecuniary jurisdiction of the Panchayat court be raised to Rs. 200.

Dewan's reply.—If the people are prepared to give a building, a girls' school will be opened. The old English School building referred to by the member will not be available for this purpose. In regard to a Stationary Magistrate for Attungal, the matter is engaging the attention of Government. But I may say that Varkala is one of the most important places of pilgrimage in the State. So, a Magistrate seems necessary there. If you have a Magistrate there, a Magistrate at Attungal seems to be superfluous. There is this difficulty. Now the Taluk Magistrate is exercising magisterial functions. I want to relieve Tahsildars of magisterial work as much as possible.

Member.—Certain pakuthies such as Edakode and Attungal are far away from Varkala.

Dewan.—A redistribution of the Magisterial charges is going to be taken up very soon. Very probably the jurisdiction over these pakuthies will be taken away from the Varkala Magistrate and given to the Attungal Taluk Magistrate.

As regards the jurisdiction of Panchayat Courts, the High Court have been asked to send up proposals for extending the territorial jurisdiction of all the courts now in existence. Their reply is awaited.

157. Some needs of the town of Quilon.

Mr. G. Govindan Nair B. A., B. L., (Member, Municipal Council, Quilon) represented the following requirements of the Quilon town:—

1. Improvements to the landing at Kurusumodu by the construction of a wharf and a decent waiting shed.

2. Deepening the portion of the lake near the wharf at the cutcherry landing or reconstruction of the wharf further down the lake.

3. Construction of roads on either side of the canal from Kochupilamoodu to the Iron bridge. There was already a road from Kochupilamoodu to the big bridge on the western side of the canal and a footpath from the big bridge to the Iron bridge. The footpath could be easily widened and converted into a cartable road. There should be a road parallel to this on the eastern side of the canal. The construction of these roads would greatly relieve the congestion and also improve the sanitation of the town. This work was recommended to Government by the Municipal Council.

4. Improving and metalling all the important roads in the town before the transfer of their management to the municipality.

The Member said that Government had already sanctioned an estimate for Rs. 15,830 for metalling the roads in the town, but no funds were provided in the budget. He requested that the above works be undertaken by Government in the interests of the people, as the financial condition of the Municipality was such that it could not take up any of these for years to come.

Dewan's reply.—The question of the construction of two wharves and the waiting shed will be looked into. In regard to the conversion of the footpath from the big bridge to the Iron bridge into a cartable road by widening it, why cannot the Municipality go into the question, make a detailed investigation, and see what the scheme is going to cost before placing the matter before Government? In the matter of construction of new roads within the limits of a Municipality, especially a large Municipality like the Quilon Municipality, the details of the scheme must be worked out by the Council. The Council should see what it is going to cost and what will be the future return from it. If a road is to be opened alongside a canal, a little more space than what is absolutely necessary for the road may be acquired and arrangements may be made to put up sheds and stalls on it so as to

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secure a good recurring income. The Municipality must work out the proposal and then come up to Government for a loan, if necessary. The metalling of all the roads in the town is a very large order.

Member.—In 1094, the matter was brought forward at the Assembly and sanction was accorded for the improvement of one of the important roads. No funds were provided for the purpose in 1095 and the work was not undertaken.

Dewan.—I think the soil of Quilon is gravelly. It is not soft and sandy like some other places and road-making there is not a costly affair.

Member.—The attention of the Council has been called to the miserable condition of the roads very often by the people.

Dewan.—The Municipality should improve their condition.

Member.—Their financial condition is such that they cannot undertake it. If this is not done by Government, I think the improvement of these roads will have to be indefinitely put off.

Dewan.—The matter will be considered, but I am afraid I can hold out no hopes.

158. Certain wants of the Shencottah Taluk and suggestions for improving the same.

Mr. S. Subrahmanya Karayalar B. A. (Member, Shencottah Taluk) submitted that the taluk was in need of big reservoirs for storing water during the rainy season, for agricultural purposes. As per the tank restoration scheme, the major tanks of Samburvadakara, Elathur, Kilankad and Ayikudi were being improved, but the other villages had practically no tanks worth mentioning. At several sessions of the Assembly he had suggested the diversion of the Palaruvi or Eathapadayar river, and Government had issued orders to investigate the scheme, but nothing came out of it. The Member stated that in the absence of any of those big schemes, the people would be satisfied if one big reservoir was constructed for each of the following pakuthies of Shencottah, Karkudi, Puliyara, Pudur and Mekkara and the existing tanks also maintained.

The Member further submitted that the ryots were under the impression that Government proposed to levy a cess for the restoration works carried out during recent years and prayed that no further burden be imposed in view of the fact that the demand for labour was increasing day by day.

The Member then urged the following works in connection with agriculture:—

1. Improvement of the road from Puliyara to Arienkavu Railway tunnel.
2. A bridge across the river at Pudur.
3. Improvement of the road from Mannuvoikal to Karkudi.
4. Widening of the bridge on the way to the Railway station from Shencottah near the timber depot.
5. A bridge between Ayikudi and Varadiergramom.

The Member also requested Government to provide grazing grounds in all pakuthies from the unreserved areas whenever possible or from the reserved forests. He next dwelt on the insanitary condition of the Shencottah town which was entirely due to the Perumalkulam tank in the very heart of the town. Government were appealed to at various sessions of the Assembly that the tank should be closed if any improvement should be effected at all, and the Member submitted that, if the tank was acquired by Government, the people were prepared to pay the cost. He finally prayed Government to take up the matter and find a solution at an early date.

Another grievance was that in his taluk the same officer was invested with revenue, civil and criminal jurisdiction, and the appointment of separate officers as Tahsildar, Munsiff and Magistrate was prayed for.

The language question was then represented, and it was suggested that only officers whose mother tongue was Tamil should be appointed in that taluk and that the language of the court should be Tamil and not Malayalam, as the bulk of the

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